



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA
Foundation

FUEL WONDER

ANNUAL AND ENDOWMENT REPORT 2023



INTRODUCING

THE LARGEST, MOST AMBITIOUS FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN
IN UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA HISTORY

FUEL WONDER

THE CAMPAIGN FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

2017. A new UArizona president. A new beginning. New clarity of purpose and values. Renewed commitment to students. To world-changing research. Life-changing advancements. The university as a force for art, new ideas, know-how, generosity, community. A place that believes in human ingenuity.

The spirit of wonder moves through the University of Arizona, and it moves through anyone who lights up thinking about what their philanthropy can do here: Fund the degree of a smart kid with limited means. Bring in the best minds across academic disciplines. Power a college's rise to national prominence. Cure intractable disease.

Over the last seven years, philanthropy has fueled the university's most ambitious people and programs and, in so doing, also fueled the wonder at the heart of their aspirations. Come with us as we pay tribute to some of the stories that will shape Wildcats and their beloved alma mater for decades to come.



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A NEW PATH FORWARD

“This is where I grew up — literally, not just age-wise,” says Terry Lundgren '75, former chairman and CEO of Macy's. “Now, it's time to give back to the university. There's a definite spirit here on campus, led by Dr. Robbins, that I want to be engaged in and supportive of. When he calls and says, ‘Let's get together and talk about the future of the U of A and how we can progress,’ I'm always here to respond.”

“Our collective efforts as alumni add up, every donation of time, talent or resources matters, because we know one thing — U of A delivered an education and experience that shaped our lives,” says Marianne Cracchiolo Mago '93, president of the Steele Foundation.

Cracchiolo Mago and the Steele Foundation made a gift last year that included the first philanthropic support for the Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological Therapies, or CAMI. And Lundgren and his wife, Tina, funded a new collaboration between the College of Agriculture, Life and Environmental Sciences and the Eller College of Management focused on the future of retail.

Both have stepped up to co-chair Fuel Wonder, the University of Arizona's \$3 billion fundraising campaign, which began its silent phase on Jan. 1, 2017.

The campaign launched publicly during Homecoming 2023 with a celebration of philanthropy on campus that included a press conference announcing \$50 million in new gifts and an interactive exhibition on the Mall designed to spotlight Wildcat achievement.

“We're in the early stage of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, where physical, biological and data sciences are converging, with a strong underpinning of humanities and social sciences,” says President Robert C. Robbins. “In this world, you're going to have to be facile in all aspects of information — data, network, computer science — no matter what job you're doing. It's changed drastically in the last 10 years and in the next 10 years will change exponentially.”

Philanthropy will fuel a vision that sees the University of Arizona at the forefront of this changing world through new knowledge discovery, commercialization and, most importantly, preparing students to adapt and thrive. That's why Fuel Wonder aims to raise funds for students and scholarships, faculty and research, and the arts and athletics programs that bring people in the door and get them excited about the work that will define the university's impact and reputation over decades to come.



John-Paul Rocznik, Nancy Berge, Robert C. Robbins

“We're in the early stage of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, where physical, biological and data sciences are converging, with a strong underpinning of humanities and social sciences. In this world, you're going to have to be facile in all aspects of information — data, network, computer science — no matter what job you're doing. It's changed drastically in the last 10 years and in the next 10 years will change exponentially.”

Robert C. Robbins

President, University of Arizona

“I hear from alumni and supporters time and time again how the University of Arizona made a difference in their lives. It's the reason they give back and a way to help shape a future we can all be proud of.”

John-Paul Rocznik

President and CEO, University of Arizona Foundation

“What a time to be University of Arizona alumni. Incredible students are coming here because they know this is a place to get a top-notch education. Research achievements like the James Webb Space Telescope are in headlines across the world. There's so much to be proud of, and in some ways, this is just the beginning.”

Nancy Berge '58

Chair, University of Arizona Foundation Board of Trustees

Read on to learn how donors to the Fuel Wonder campaign have made a difference. →



SCHOLARSHIPS A BEAUTIFUL GIFT

“Money can’t buy happiness, but money can help a kid get an education.” So says Sammy Cibulka ’23, and he should know: The broadcast journalism graduate relied on scholarship funding to help close the gap for his University of Arizona experience. As the cost of education rises, scholarships make the university competitive for high-merit scholars and accessible to top students without means.

“We reach populations that include a high percentage of first-generation college students,” says Dante Lauretta ’93, Regents Professor of Planetary Science and Cosmochemistry and principal investigator of the OSIRIS-REx mission. “It is a daunting prospect when you look at the bills and expenses. I would have never gone to the University of Arizona if I had not gotten a scholarship.”

Lauretta and his wife, Katherine Crombie, are among the many donors who have made scholarships a philanthropic priority. University of Arizona Foundation President JP Rocznik shares a story about an Arizona Assurance scholar who showed her two sisters that college was possible. “Even one student, one person from one family going to college can help change that family,” he says. “When you change a family, you change a community.”

Read on to learn about six scholarship recipients reaching for their academic and career dreams.

Danielle Nead-Work (Garcia Family Foundation scholar)

Scholarships unlocked the door for Danielle Nead-Work ’23 to pursue her greatest ambitions.

“It has always been my dream to travel around the world,” she says. “To get to study fashion in three different countries with some of the best professors that I have had was the experience of a lifetime.”

Nead-Work double-majored in law and fashion industries science and technology, with a minor in Spanish, and was among the first cohort of Garcia scholars, who graduated in spring 2023. The Garcia Family Foundation established the Garcia scholarship program for W.A. Franke Honors College students in 2020 with the goal of making education more accessible and ensuring that students graduate with a global perspective.

Thanks to the tuition assistance, Garcia scholars can focus fully on their schoolwork and take part in more extracurriculars than they might be able to if they also had to financially support themselves. A participant in Arizona Mock Trial, Nead-Work says she’s glad she could explore her academic interests instead of worrying about how she would pay for school.

“I’d like to study and work in fashion sustainability law, which is a new and developing field,” she says. Nead-Work plans to attend law school in pursuit of this goal.

In addition to offsetting the cost of tuition, Garcia scholarships provide travel stipends for up to two international study abroad experiences. That opportunity was a game-changer for Nead-Work.

“Because of this experience, I hope to one day live and work in Europe, in one of the amazing places that we studied in. My favorite was Paris,” she says. “I probably would not have been able to take part in this opportunity if it weren’t for the Garcia Family Foundation Scholarship, and I am so grateful that I was able to do it.”

Crystal Vo (R. Ken Coit scholar)

Crystal Vo ’25 hopes, through her studies, to honor the courage of her parents. In their late teens, Vo says, her mother and father left Vietnam for the United States to build a life in Portland, Oregon. She was born there, though her family moved to Arizona when she was 10.

Today, Vo is halfway through her doctoral program at the R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy – Phoenix. The aspiring pediatric pharmacist holds leadership positions in eight campus organizations. She works at Phoenix Children’s Hospital and, last spring, joined Rho Chi honor society.

“What I’m personally most proud of is probably being able to receive a college education,” Vo, an R. Ken Coit scholar, says. “To get a higher education was something that I always wanted to accomplish — just ensuring that my parents’ sacrifices to come over here were worth it.”

Vo has made the most of her higher-education journey, and the Coit scholarship has helped. It has enabled Vo to actively participate in her doctoral program — and not only while in class. Last year, alongside schoolmates, she organized health fairs in Maricopa County towns lacking access to providers, screening hundreds of patients for cholesterol levels, diabetes, hypertension, osteoporosis and depression.

At one fair, Vo met a woman with diabetes who’d stopped taking her medication because she felt all right. Vo and a preceptor convinced her to visit her doctor. In such moments, Vo says, she can see the difference she is making in the community.

In school, she has two years down, two to go. And at the moment, she says, “It kind of just feels like all my hard work has been paying off.”

Sarah Wolff (W.A. Franke scholar)

Health care has been a calling for Sarah Wolff ’26 since her mother fought cancer in 2016, which is why going to a college or university with an excellent medical program was, for her, nonnegotiable. Wolff cites the University of Arizona’s “incredible” educational offerings for med school students as the main reason she became a Wildcat. Beyond that, she says, the W.A. Franke Honors College drew Wolff in because she admired how research is integrated into the honors experience.

This fall, Wolff enters her sophomore year as a physiology and medical sciences major with a double minor in biochemistry and Spanish. She has a passion, she says, for learning about the human body.

“There truly is a whole universe under our skin that functions solely to keep us alive,” she says. “I find it completely fascinating to learn about the intricacies of how our bodies work, especially what they do when something is not functioning properly.”

Of her full-tuition support, Wolff says, “I am extremely fortunate and grateful to the generous donors who invest in college students like me. If it was not for these scholarships, I would not be able to afford college. It is my dream to become a doctor, so these scholarships mean everything to me. They allow me to focus solely on studying what I am passionate about and building my dream career, and I will be forever grateful for this.”

Sebo Diaz (Thomas R. Brown Foundations scholar)

Someday, Sebo Diaz ’23 might go to medical school, but for now, he’s pursuing his doctorate in medical engineering and physics, with a focus on MRI, or magnetic resonance imaging. The University of Arizona graduate moved to Boston just a month after earning his bachelor’s to join a research lab at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

For Diaz, however, the life changes don't feel abrupt. That's because he's been in labs since he was 18 and has pitched in with his MIT research group since the summer of 2021.

"I sort of already started my Ph.D. the past two years," he says, even if he didn't know it then.

In Tucson, Diaz found valued mentors in Arthur Gmitro, department head of biomedical engineering, and Jennifer Barton, director of the BIO5 Institute. Gmitro gave him the "sky-level view" of life as a researcher; steering the complex work of multiple labs toward common goals, Barton provided a superb example of leadership. Then, there was professor Nan-kuei Chen, who showed him the ins and outs of the MRI field.

Diaz says that the university offers undergraduate research opportunities uncommon elsewhere. He calls those chances to explore "invaluable," especially as he begins to work exclusively on MRI, which he became interested in as a teenager.

"There's a lot of hidden stuff within our body," he says, "and we can't necessarily see it through normal means. We need to look deeper."

Beginning in his first year, Diaz received a scholarship from the Thomas R. Brown Foundations, which offer awards through the College of Engineering, the Eller College of Management and Arizona Assurance. The award was his largest at the university, and he graduated without debt.

At MIT, he's funded fully. Medical school might be different, he says, but for now, he's set.

Samantha Guerrero (Sandra Aley scholar)

Samantha Guerrero '24, a biology major and premed student, spends her spare time as a hospital volunteer. She's training to be a medical professional thanks in part to the Sandra, Pamela, and Polly Aley Scholarship.

Donor Sandra Aley '77 was an alumna of Flowing Wells High School, located on Tucson's northwest side, and the University of Arizona. The first in her immediate family to attend college, Aley died of pancreatic

cancer in January 2020. A \$4.6 million gift from her estate created the scholarship, which was named in honor of Aley, her sister, Pamela, and her mother, Polly.

"It's a beautiful gift," Guerrero says. "The scholarship has helped me get through college without taking out loans and without having to worry about money."

In 2021, Guerrero's father experienced complications from COVID-19. "My mom and I helped him recover. Seeing what he has gone through and seeing how a medical condition can change a person's whole life motivated me even more to become a medical professional and work to prevent illness," Guerrero says.

Her scholarship award came as a surprise — and a relief. Guerrero was planning her finances leading up to her first fall semester when she realized that she still needed \$6,000 in merit-based aid. "I was worried about having to take out a loan," she says. "And then I received a text message that I got approved for a \$6,000 scholarship. And it was this scholarship. I was surprised because it was the last \$6,000 I needed."

"I was really grateful. And I'm pretty sure it's helped a lot of other students. I am happy that they're able to help so many people aside from me."

Jaiden and Sophie Singh (Baird Foundation scholars)

When Sophie Singh '26 was offered a Baird scholarship, the first person she called was her big brother. That's because Jaiden Singh '24 understood what the award meant, being a Baird scholar himself.

They knew of siblings who'd previously been members of the Baird community — a small one, with six students per year — and were "very hopeful that it might happen again," Jaiden says. "It was so exciting," says Sophie.

The Singhs, raised in Glendale, mirror each other beyond their scholarship, which covers tuition and fees, carries merit aid, and comes with an invitation to the W.A. Franke Honors College. Jaiden majors in law and public health. All year, he's worked for the Pima County Health Department,

first through AmeriCorps and now as a policy intern. Sophie, for her part, hopes someday to enroll in medical school and volunteers through Street Medicine Tucson.

"We have a mobile clinic, and we go out to different parks in Tucson and set up our clinic. And people who are homeless or just need a checkup can come in, and we provide that for free," she says, mentioning that she'd like to be able to assist Spanish-language clients, too — something her minor in Spanish, one Jaiden also has pursued, will help her to do. Both siblings also volunteer through the Wildcat chapter of Active Minds.

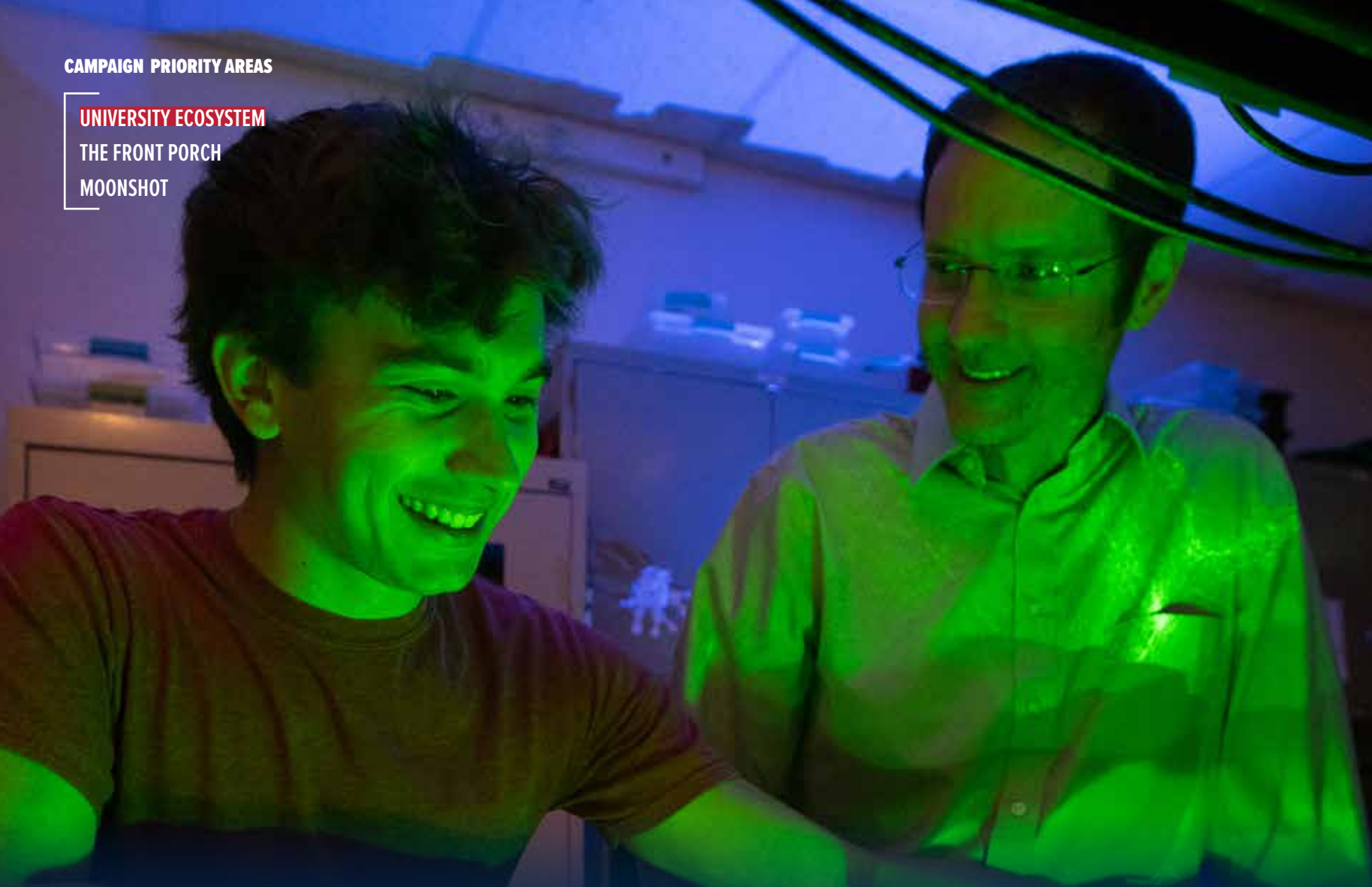
Along with their other involvements — Jaiden serves as secretary general of Arizona Model United Nations, and Sophie is in the club for her major, medicine — they both love being a part of the Baird community while navigating the challenges of college. They say they've enjoyed the chance to build closer relationships and spend time with their cohorts, enjoying the Wildcat experience in its fullest.

'I was really grateful. And I'm pretty sure it's helped a lot of other students. I am happy that they're able to help so many people aside from me.'

FUEL WONDER SCHOLARSHIPS FAST FACTS

To date, Wildcats have raised a total of **\$233 million** to support scholarships and student success during the Fuel Wonder campaign.





R. Jason Jones with research student

ENDOWED CHAIRS INVESTING IN EXCEPTIONAL FACULTY

Every college is only as strong as its faculty and leadership, and having top-tier faculty is what attracts brilliant students eager to learn. “I know for a fact that when I walk in my class, the faculty are going to give everything they have,” says Sammy Cibulka ’23. “I think the opportunity that this campaign may give to more faculty is super important because of the relationships I’ve built with my professors.” A robust and vibrant university ecosystem where faculty, students and research all thrive together is a chief objective of the Fuel Wonder campaign.

Endowed chairs are a key priority within the campaign. They help recruit some of the most talented researchers and educators to Tucson and retain the highly sought-after faculty we already have. Chair holders use funds to jump-start proof-of-concept projects that will later go on to attract research grants. They use funds to support student intern positions, so researchers of tomorrow get hands-on experience working alongside some of the brightest minds in their field. Endowed chairs also bring faculty members much-deserved recognition for the contributions they make to the university. “The best of the best will come to the University of Arizona because they see others who think like they think, who share the same vision they have. It is up to us to support those visions,” says Michael Dake, senior vice president of Health Sciences.

Endowing deanships is another priority in the Fuel Wonder campaign. Deanships provide college leadership with a new level of flexibility, as deans can direct resources to opportunities as they emerge. A named deanship is a vote of confidence in a dean’s vision and ensures long-term stability for the college.

Here, we hear from faculty awarded endowed chairs through the Fuel Wonder campaign. They speak about how their endowments are helping them pursue their boldest ideas and create a thriving university ecosystem.

David Hahn Craig M. Berge Dean of the College of Engineering

Our commitment to excellence at the College of Engineering comes down to three significant groups of people: our students, our faculty and our staff members. They are all a key part of our success and growth as a college. I use the Craig M. Berge deanship to support all three of these groups.

Ultimately, we’d like to double undergraduate class admissions, and it’s a big task. One particular opportunity that we identified is the recruitment of community college transfer students, who often miss some of the first-year financial aid opportunities. We’ve been able to use some of the endowment funds to facilitate community college transfer student scholarships, and that’s huge, because that is truly filling a niche.

I also use the deanship to fund “Dean’s Fellows” in our faculty. And that provides cash resources to faculty members to allow them to expand their research enterprise so they can focus on new seed ideas before they could go out and attract external funding, or to travel to professional conferences, or to support their undergraduate student researchers. It’s giving them discretionary funds and recognizing their excellence. The whole idea of endowed chairs and endowed professorships is really to put those resources in the hands of our outstanding faculty.

Faculty chairs are multifaceted in their benefits; they help me retain faculty by recognizing excellence. And when we recognize that excellence, that builds more loyalty for that person to want to stay here and succeed. And we’re also investing in success: When we award an endowed chair to an outstanding young professor, they can use those proceeds to get even better, to take an idea that they might have and start exploring it without waiting for the grant to show up. It’s a real return on that investment in keeping great faculty and recruiting great faculty.

It’s a tough recruiting market. Engineering schools around the country are ramping up, and the competition for really strong talent is as high as I’ve seen it in my career. Having the resources that come to the chair holder, and in my case the deanship, is huge right now. Discretionary dollars are also hard to come by these days. So having the ability to be nimble, to invest strategically as initiatives and opportunities arise, is huge to us. When I see opportunity, I can move quickly and start that effort. I think the beauty of endowed chairs is that ability for the chair holder to be able to move on opportunities and fund them. It’s really instrumental.

R. Jason Jones John Paul Schaefer Endowed Chair in Optical Sciences

I love being able to build experiments from the ground up and show students how to do it. Light is a fundamental part of nature and gives you deep insights into the physical world. Sharing knowledge with students provides deep satisfaction. Knowing that they’re benefiting — and that they’ll go on to do other things with the knowledge they have gained — provides meaning in that we’re not just doing present day research, but we’re investing in the next generation of researchers.

In my group, we have a nice ecosystem with around eight students working on their Ph.D. theses. They’re exposed to a broad range of ways research can be done, so they can go on to work in a national lab or stay in academia. Receiving funding from the endowment makes it easier for me to take on more students and frees up funds that make a big difference in a group like mine.

The Wyant College of Optical Sciences has been fantastic to be part of because you’re able to make collaborations right where you sit, so to speak. It’s a place where you can focus on the science of light and apply that to different areas of science. It’s a multidisciplinary college. We have research activities spanning real-world applications to fundamental physics. There’s a broad range of people and interests and knowledge, and it’s not restricted to just a physics or engineering department. We all have in common these tools of working with light, studying light, lasers and optics.

In our research lab, we design novel laser systems and develop techniques to study phenomena that broadly deal with the interaction of light and matter and have real-world applications. Some experiments investigate how we can use laser light to study the detailed composition of solid materials, such as a rock or mineral — for example, determining what materials it is composed of and even the isotopic ratios of its atomic constituents, and whether or not it is naturally occurring. We’re also developing a novel laser system for a next-generation atomic clock. Right now, the GPS system that we all utilize relies on atomic clocks on satellites. And since about 2000, researchers have developed ways to improve these clocks, but the technology has yet to catch up to implement it in aircraft or satellites.

Being the first one to see something or to verify that something behaves differently than people thought is what drives a lot of researchers at the cutting edge. You want to be the first one to test and tell the world about a finding. That’s a huge motivation, whether it’s a small or big discovery. Sometimes it’s very technical and minor but still exciting. Sometimes it’s bigger. Those are the events that motivate us.

Jennifer Barton
Thomas R. Brown Distinguished
Chair in Biomedical Engineering

I'm an engineer. I look for problems and create solutions to them. I was very fortunate to have a physician collaborator, Molly Brewer, who came to me one day and said, "You know how to build tools that can detect cancer. You have to help me." Her challenge was that ovarian cancer patients usually come when the cancer is considered late stage. At that point, you go, you do surgery, and then you start chemotherapy. You can usually knock the disease down, but what frequently happens is you get almost all the cancer, and unfortunately, part is missed.

I felt a bit like a failure at first for not being able to come up with a solution to this problem. But things change. You must come back and readdress difficulties and see the problem at hand with a fresh perspective and new technology and skills. Sometimes, problems that were intractable 10 years ago aren't today.

My work uses advanced optical imaging techniques for early cancer detection. If you catch cancer when it's confined to its earliest stage, then it oftentimes has a 90% cure rate. However, if it advances to the point where there's metastases, then that probability of five-year survival may go down to less than 25%. I'm particularly interested in ovarian cancer, and right now, ovarian cancer is almost always caught late.

We are designing tiny endoscopes, less than a millimeter in diameter, that can go through the uterus into the fallopian tubes and look around, with advanced optical modalities that are very sensitive, and detect if there's anything abnormal or wrong. It's very rewarding work. It's dealing with a huge problem for which there is no solution today. It's not only exciting for me to develop solutions to this problem but also for the students who work on it in my lab and feel just as passionate.

The Brown endowment has been transformative to my work. The first and perhaps most obvious reason is

that it does give seed funds for new projects. Most federal agencies will award you grants once you've proven that you can do the work. The amount of preliminary data you need to have in order to be successful is significant, which means somehow or another, you've got to figure out how you do those initial experiments.

My home department of biomedical engineering has been incredibly supportive, and I love the direction that Dean David Hahn is taking the College of Engineering. I love that here, if you have a great idea, you're generally told, "Pursue it." The University of Arizona is a supportive, welcoming and wonderful place to work. Having this endowed chair has been an important part of letting me take the fullest advantage of the great situation I'm in.

I want to make sure that no woman dies of ovarian cancer. That's the goal. It's audacious. And I don't even know how realistic that goal is, but I'm going to do the best that I can to make sure that we can catch cancer early and when it's treatable. I'm going to do as much as I can.

FUEL WONDER ENDOWED CHAIRS FAST FACTS

To date, Wildcats have raised a total of **\$155 million** to support faculty during the Fuel Wonder campaign. This support has helped us create **90** new endowed positions to recruit and retain the University of Arizona's very best faculty and staff.

'I understand the importance of endowments, especially endowed chairs, which is why Czarina and I have established a number of them at the University of Arizona, one in the UA Sarver Heart Center and one in the Dhaliwal-Reidy School of Accountancy at the Eller College of Management. Most recently, we've established a new program at Eller that is very exciting to us, and it includes endowed chairs and an endowed professorship. Another highlight for us, though, is that this past year was when we established the Iovanna C. Lopez Endowed Deanship in the College of Medicine – Tucson, named in honor of our daughter. She has made us incredibly proud, and we named the chair to share with her, and our family, Czarina's and my philanthropic spirit. We are excited by the leadership brought to the university by Dean Mike Abecassis, and we are confident in his vision for the college. At the end of the day, those that hold the chairs we've named are important to us, and this is our way of supporting their work.'

Humberto Lopez '69
The H.S. Lopez Family Foundation





ATHLETICS WHAT SETS US APART

Shared experiences bind people together: The roar of thousands clapping out “Bear Down, Arizona” in McKale Center. The pin-drop silence that permeates a theater just before the standing ovation after a play. Arizona Athletics and Arizona Arts are touchstones for Tucson residents, alumni and friends. The university’s “front porch” delivers experiences that draw visitors to campus and contribute to the rich cultural fabric of Southern Arizona — so much so that they are built into the university’s strategic plan and are an area of focus in Fuel Wonder.

Read on for Arizona Athletics Director Dave Heeke’s perspective on how sporting events at the university serve as an invitation to engage with campus life more broadly. He also discusses the facility upgrades — spurred by donor gifts — that permit Arizona Athletics to be the best version of itself for student-athletes, coaches and fans.

Could you describe your journey to the University of Arizona?

It’s a long journey. I enjoyed athletics, competed through my life and went on to be a student-athlete in college. That set my course to be in college athletics for my career. I was in the Pac-12, at Oregon, for almost 20 years. The chance to come to an elite university and program like Arizona — there was no way I was going to pass it up.

What did you know about Arizona Athletics before your arrival?

At a program like this, the tradition and excellence goes without saying. I knew a lot about what happens in Tucson: great players, great history, great coaches and an incredible university that it all centers around. I’m the third athletic director from Albion College in Michigan to lead this program. I’m not iconic like Cedric Dempsey and Pop McKale, but they are from my college — and McKale is from my hometown.

Athletics is a rallying point for many in our community. What sets Arizona’s program and fanbase apart from those in other places?

What sets our program apart is the people: the coaches, the staff, the student-athletes. It’s important to have people who care about our student-athletes and the university. In a community like Tucson, it’s also the people who support this program — the alums and fanbase who love it and who believe in it because we do things right.

What common culture binds Arizona’s student-athletes together?

We strive to be excellent. Academically, first, and athletically, to pursue dreams. But then to grow as a person and become ready for that next chapter. That’s what our program is about: serving our 500 student-athletes, allowing them to become life champions. Certainly, we want to compete and win along the way.

What has propelled Arizona student-athletes’ academic success?

It starts with our coaches bringing in young people who understand our culture and expectations. I’m proud of us continuing to break records with grade-point averages. For our student-athletes to collectively have over a 3.0 GPA speaks volumes.

How can donors help students, especially through the 5980 Academic Fund?

The facilities that our student-athletes compete and train in are important to their pursuits. But equally important are scholarships to support their time on campus. The new 5980 fund provides resources to student-athletes as they meet expectations in our program. We want to create the best overall experience for our students. They are students first.

College athletics has changed with the new rules around name, image and likeness. What is Arizona’s approach?

NIL is the budding issue in college athletics, but it’s one we embrace. The chance for student-athletes to explore business opportunities — we embrace it. This is something that will become a new normal in college athletics. We’re going to be behind that.

Athletics has received transformative gifts during the campuswide Fuel Wonder campaign. Can you talk about a few?

There have been significant gifts during the campaign centering around facility development, led by the Cole and Jeannie Davis Sports Center next to Arizona Stadium. We’ve upgraded Hillenbrand Aquatic Center and Hillenbrand Memorial Stadium. Those improvements were generated by numerous gifts. Our new, beautiful golf facility at Tucson Country Club — with lead gifts from the Clements family and Peter and Nancy Salter — is a tremendous asset.

What do athletics donors care about most?

No question: the experience and development of the student-athletes. Whether you give to facilities, scholarships or our academic areas, it all centers around student-athletes prospering and becoming ready for next chapters. There are many moving parts in college athletics. But if we stay true to the bull’s-eye, our students, that makes us great.

What role does athletics play in the life of the campus and community?

We give people a chance to enter, come back to campus and continue to engage. They may be interested in women’s basketball, or golf, or tennis, but then they see the great things happening across campus: the outstanding faculty and research, the programs that serve our students. Athletics is a big community driver. Here in Southern Arizona, these large events, the fanbase, the drive for the economic engine of Tucson — that’s important. And we take that seriously as we bring events, activity and life to the campus.

GIFTS TO ARIZONA ATHLETICS DURING THE FUEL WONDER CAMPAIGN INCLUDE:

- The Cole and Jeannie Davis Sports Center for Arizona football and other programs
- The William M. “Bill” Clements Golf Center for Arizona women’s and men’s golf
- The Peter and Nancy Salter Short Game Practice area, also for Arizona’s golf programs



Jordan Chin

ARIZONA PUBLIC MEDIA BRIDGING COMMUNITIES

Imagine entering a television and radio studio. On-air talent is interviewing a local hero in one space and introducing a jazz piece in a booth around the corner. Down the corridor is a performance venue, with live music playing as a visiting dance ensemble takes the stage. The combination of media creates a captivating atmosphere that immerses people in a world where different art forms and intellectual discourse merge.



Jack Gibson

That's what the future has in store at the Paul and Alice Baker Center for Public Media at the University of Arizona Tech Park at The Bridges. The new facility is an upgrade for Arizona Public Media, Southern Arizona's award-winning public media organization. AZPM's studios currently reside in cramped and technologically outdated headquarters in the basement of the Modern Languages Building on campus, making public access somewhat difficult.

"I am wildly excited about the possibilities this new facility will bring," says Jack Gibson, AZPM CEO. "I'm also humbled and honored to have so many donors place their trust, faith and treasury behind the work that we do. They are more than donors to us: They are friends. They offer their experiences and perspectives, taking a sincere interest in the work and the difference we can make in people's lives."

The new center, which is 100% donor funded, will welcome the community to an inside look into AZPM's television and radio studios. It also will offer a gathering space for entertainment and community activities — a convening ground for open debates, presentations, screenings and other events intended to bring the community together. Expansion, innovation and new partnerships will be made possible thanks to the many donors who have supported the AZPM facility upgrade. It is scheduled to break ground February 2024.

"We are pleased to help bring Arizona Public Media into the 21st century. While we know the programming is of such high quality that no improvement is needed, we want AZPM to be able to accomplish its mission in a proper, welcoming space and with the most advanced technology available," say the Bakers, longtime university supporters.

The new, state-of-the-art facility, which will include the latest in audio-visual and connectivity technology, also will help AZPM attract, recruit and

retain talented staff and supporters and add new revenue streams through facility rentals. The main studio will include retractable seating, permanent balcony seating and 5,000 square feet of space that can accommodate large performance groups.

"AZPM has stood the test of time as an important part of our community and our lives. Our children and grandchildren were raised on PBS shows like 'Sesame Street' and 'Mr. Rogers.' Now, we watch PBS almost daily," the Bakers say. "We can't wait to see the ways AZPM will continue to evolve. We share the excitement of so many and know the increased technical capabilities and improved physical space and location will impact all of us in important ways."

AZPM staff and students are in for a treat as well. New workspaces, designed for maximum collaboration, will offer mobility, flexibility and efficiency while content creators work in spaces designed for optimal productivity.

For students like Jordan Chin, working at AZPM makes all the difference. He graduated in May with a bachelor of arts degree in broadcast journalism and will enter the university's master's program in bilingual journalism this fall.

Chin was recognized with his first Rocky Mountain Emmy® award for an "Arizona Illustrated" segment called "Hearing Isaiah" about Tucson environmentalist Isaiah Haley, who is a "cause for hope and optimism about a clean, safe and more sustainable future."

Chin says, "Everyone at AZPM is super talented, and it's been a great learning opportunity. I've learned to flourish and fail because producers are willing to give me actual feedback and ways to improve. And that's what I really appreciate."

As for Gibson, he sees a path to the future that includes a vision of a community "in which ideas abound, knowledge is sought and learning never ends."



CENTER FOR ADVANCED MOLECULAR AND IMMUNOLOGICAL THERAPIES A BOLD APPROACH TO RESEARCH

A moonshot is a brave and audacious endeavor. The Fuel Wonder campaign initiative called Moonshot is about meeting the grand challenges of tomorrow through research and innovation. It asks us to think past perceived limits and achieve what is supposedly beyond reach, setting the stage for global Wildcat impact.

Among the University of Arizona's moonshot initiatives is the development of the Center for Advanced Molecular and Immunological Therapies, or CAMI, the national biomedical research hub whose story we continue telling here.



Marianne Cracchiolo Mago

The national research hub for molecular and immunological therapies gains strength from gifts with family ties.

“Since there is nothing we can take with us from this life,” said the late George Vanderheiden, “we should try to leave behind as much as possible.”

Vanderheiden, a longtime fund manager at Fidelity Investments who died of pancreatic cancer in 2022, lived out that credo alongside his wife of more than 50 years, Sharon. Together, the Vanderheidens helped the families of fallen military service members get set in mortgage-free homes and helped pregnant women suffering from addiction access safety and wellness programs. They also made sure their home base — Wolfeboro, New Hampshire — had plenty of pickleball courts.

Now, George's legacy continues through his cousin, Bruce Bartlett, and Bartlett's spouse, Patricia. The Bartletts, committed champions of University of Arizona students, have given \$3 million to create the George A. Vanderheiden Endowed Chair in Cancer Immunological Research at CAMI. The chairholder will direct the center's cancer division.

The gift is just one of the recent philanthropic acts giving life to the center, established by UArizona Health Sciences in 2022 on the Phoenix Bioscience Core. The Steele Foundation, founded in 1985 by attorney Daniel Cracchiolo '52, made the first private charitable investment in the center — part of a \$10 million commitment to the UArizona Steele Children's Research Center.

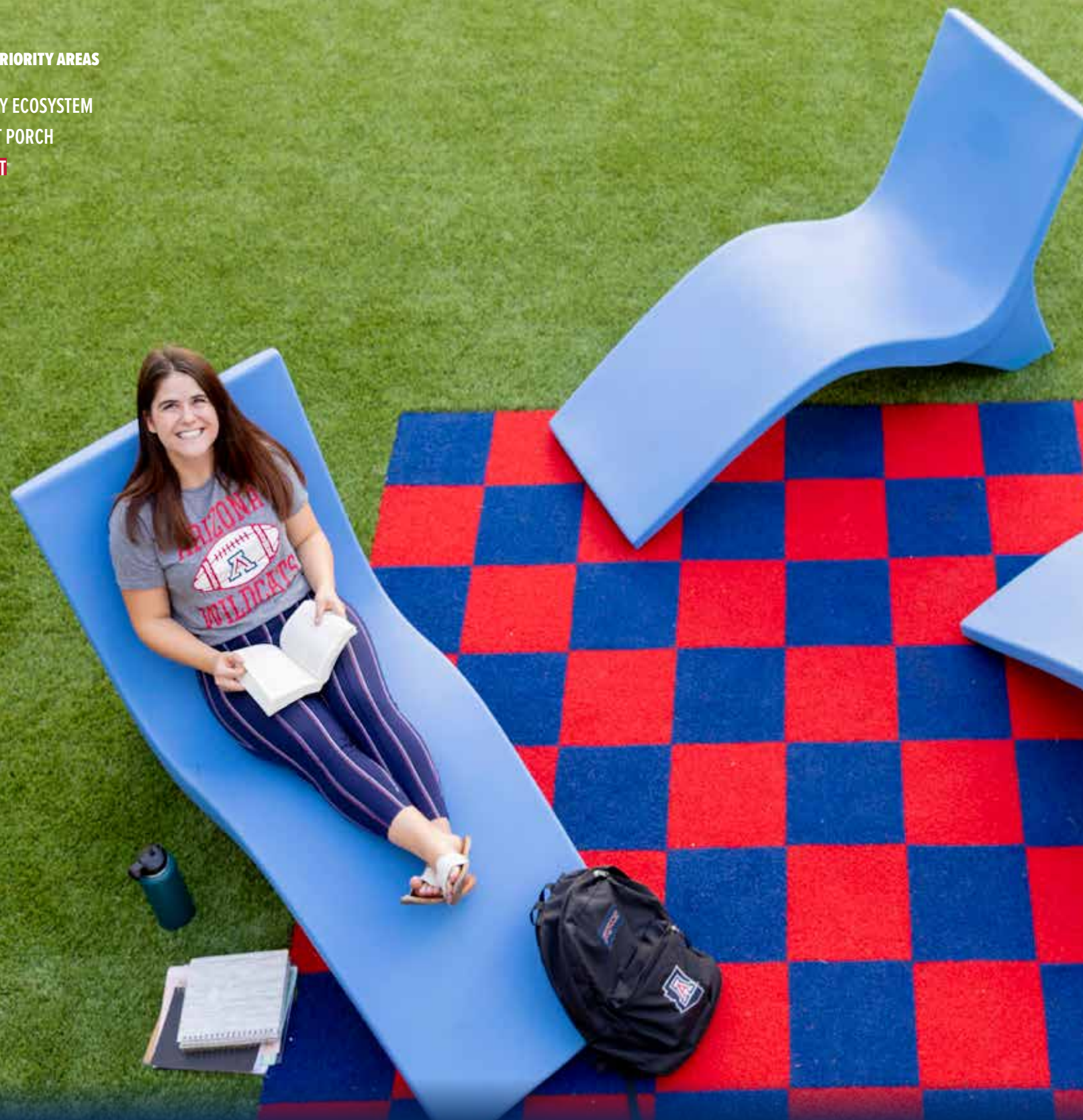
Like Vanderheiden, Cracchiolo died last year. The Steele gift was realized under the leadership of his daughter, Marianne Cracchiolo Mago '93. Previously the senior vice president of comedy at Warner Bros Television, Cracchiolo Mago has been the foundation's president and CEO since 2007.

“The foundation is honored to be the first private philanthropic investment in CAMI,” Cracchiolo Mago says. “CAMI's presence in Arizona is vital to advance science and innovation, combatting everything from cancer to Alzheimer's.”

The family ties push along a center with significant ambitions in the areas of immunotherapy, which marshals the body's immune system to counter disease, and molecular therapy, where drugs lock in on the molecules at the heart of an illness's progression. According to Michael Dake, senior vice president for UArizona Health Sciences, such interventions will change how providers help patients heal.

“We are going to see diversification of drug classes and different types of combination therapies, delivery mechanisms and monitoring,” Dake says. “Going forward, I think we're going to see a wide array of therapies that are going to be vastly different than any past generations ever had. Suffice it to say: In the future, pills and syringes are going to be obsolete.”

The cell- and gene-based therapies advanced by CAMI are powered by a common engine: precision medicine, an approach to health care that factors in patients' genes, environments and lifeways. They equip doctors to more effectively contend with a range of acute ailments, among them cancers, infectious diseases and autoimmune conditions. CAMI, Dake reasons, will be “nothing short of a national biomedical research hub,” a vision backed by the state of Arizona, which committed \$150 million to the center under former Gov. Doug Ducey. In June, the center was granted an additional \$4 million by the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, which drew on federal funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act.



COLLEGE NAMINGS TRANSFORMATIONAL PROGRESS

Naming a college goes beyond making a change to a brick-and-mortar building and a website. Gifts of this magnitude set a college on a trajectory for growth and impact, whether through endowed chairs, scholarships, investments in programming or other visionary contributions. When a college is named, the associated funding helps the college invest in targeted resources that will take it to the next level in student support, research acumen and overall excellence.

We see this success among the colleges that were named 20 or more years ago. The Eller College of Management ranks No. 20 among public undergraduate business programs, and its management and information systems degree program consistently ranks among the top five in the nation. Meanwhile, the James E. Rogers College of Law currently recruits its students from the top 15% of the national applicant pool, has an award-winning trial advocacy program and is the only law school that offers degrees at every level of higher education, from undergraduate through doctoral. And the Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health not only is Arizona's first and only accredited college of public health but also is recognized both internationally for its research productivity and nationally for its leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Several colleges have been named with generous gifts more recently and are poised for amplified success. The 2019 naming of the James C. Wyant College of Optical Sciences recognized the contributions of its namesake to the college. Wyant, an Optica fellow, is the founding dean and past president of the College of Optical Sciences, and he has been instrumental in establishing the university as a national leader in optics and photonics. His gift included the endowment of 10 new chairs at the college, representing a major boon to faculty recruitment and retention as well as to the college's pursuit of cutting-edge research and opportunities for students to participate in research, even at the undergraduate level.

In the fall of 2021, the R. Ken Coit College of Pharmacy was named with a gift presented by alumnus and entrepreneur Ken Coit '67 and his family. The gift created an endowment for 42 new scholarships, four endowed professorships

and six new endowed chairs, including individual chairs for drug discovery, neurodegenerative diseases and toxicology. It also funds strategic investments in research equipment and facility upgrades and includes funding for the Coit Museum of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, a unique collection of historical pharmacology artifacts. This philanthropy solidifies the University of Arizona Health Sciences' place as a frontrunner in pharmaceutical education, research and innovation.

Also in the fall of 2021, the W.A. Franke Honors College was named by William A. "Bill" Franke along with his wife, Carolyn, and the Franke family. Their gift provided scholarships, stipends to defray the cost of living in the Honors Village, funding for study abroad to help students develop global leadership skills, an endowed deanship and a new Honors Faculty Academy that provides top faculty members with financial rewards for excellence in research and teaching. Thanks to this philanthropic investment, the W.A. Franke Honors College is poised to become a top honors college while also becoming more accessible to first-generation and low-income students. Its prestige will serve as a beacon for talented prospective students, improving undergraduate recruitment for the entire university.

Naming a college means having a vision and taking action as a philanthropic leader at the University of Arizona. It means partnering with the university to set an entire college on a path not just to succeed but to excel in its own right. It means considering what would benefit a school in its current state and making informed, creative choices regarding how to best empower that college to shine.

Naming a college means shaping its future.

"I want students from the Honors College to graduate confident that the program has provided a deep skill set to leverage their natural abilities to think, to lead and to problem-solve into long-term career and life success. Whether they're moving into careers in science, education or business, there will be opportunities for these graduates to provide leadership and to help develop perspective with the communities they're engaged with." — **Bill Franke**

"It is my goal to see the College of Pharmacy take its place among the top three programs in the nation. With this gift, the college can recruit the best and brightest students and faculty, who will go on to change the face of health care around the world." — **Ken Coit '67**

"My hope is to ensure a pathway for the College of Optical Sciences to achieve even greater prominence and success in its education and research mission." — **James Wyant**